

EAST GREENWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 28, 2006 SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

East Greenwich High School Auditorium, 300 Avenger Drive

ANY ITEMS CONSIDERED BY SCHOOL COMMITTEE MAY BE SUBJECT TO A VOTE

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Secretary, Virginia Giuliani at 7:00p.m. The

following members were present: Sue Cienki, William Day, Mary Ellen Winters, Susan Records, Jean Ann Guliano, and Anne Palumbo. Mrs. Friedemann was absent. The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2. School Committee Reorganization

The secretary asked for nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair. Mrs. Cienki was unanimously elected Chair of the East Greenwich School

Committee and Mr. Day was elected Vice-Chair. The meeting was then turned over to the Chair.

3. Public Comments for Items not on the Agenda

Mr. David Grandpre, Barrows Drive, congratulated the new School Committee.

He noted that the Facilities Committee has made great improvements to the overall process. He spoke about not having pre-conceived ideas on the various options available from SBS. He stated that

people should let the whole picture drive the decision-making process.

4. Approval of Minutes

On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Records, the Committee

voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 23 Executive Session Meeting.

5. Strategic Building Solutions Report: Enrollment Projection Study

Mr. Jonathan Winikur, Mr. Chip Phillips and Mr. Dennis Flynn gave a power point presentation on the Enrollment Projection Study. They compiled historical data from the New England School Development Council's yearly projections. A major impact upon enrollment could be a result of the proposed Wellington Woods subdivision. Mr. Winikur noted that the impact may be 200 more students. The enrollment study showed building issues and noted that the high school is in the best physical condition of all the schools. Jonathan Finkle, Misty Oak Drive, asked if the trends have been looked at over the last 40 years. Mr. Winikur stated that he is in the process of getting that information from the Department of Education. He added that money is an object and there is an issue of Cole going to 6, 7 and 8, alleviating overcrowding in the elementary schools.

Mr. Jay Gowell welcomed all new School Committee members. He noted that his committee has been working for one year and the big question has been what to do with Cole. He stated that decision time is soon and noted that the Facilities Committee will hold two work session meetings, December 7 and 14 to evaluate the options. He

noted that there will be either recommendations or a menu of choices, and costs will be assigned to educational options. Elizabeth Gowell stated that people are selling their property to younger families in certain parts of town.

New Business

189

6.1 Retirement

On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Palumbo, the Committee

voted unanimously to accept the following retirement:

6.1.1 Isabel Dyer, paraprofessional at Frenchtown, effective 12-31-06

6.2 Resignation

On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Palumbo, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the following resignation:

6.2.1 Elizabeth Peirce, Guidance Counselor at Cole, effective November

17, 2006

6.3 Appointments

On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Palumbo, the Committee

voted unanimously to approve the following appointments:

6.3.1 Craig MacKenzie and Julie Varone co-advisors to the class of 2010

- 6.3.2 Dona Ferrante, Basketball Cheerleader Advisor for Cole Middle**
- 6.3.3 Richard Barrett, Intramural girls' basketball advisor at Cole Middle**

7. Set School Committee Calendar for 2007

On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Palumbo, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the School Committee Calendar for 2007.

8. Addition of junior varsity coaching positions for boys' and girls' lacrosse teams

Mr. Day made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Guliano to approve the addition of junior varsity coaching positions for lacrosse. Mr. Meyers noted that since there is a high school varsity team in place and a club team at Cole, a junior varsity team is being requested. He stated that he has always been supportive of the athletic program but there is no money budgeted for this and he can't support this because this is a tight budget year. Kathy Mondillo noted that at Cole, parents are funding it now. She feels that it is such a popular sport that attracts so many kids. Mr. Meyers noted that the new budget cap for the next budget will make it very difficult to fund this and he hopes we will be able to preserve varsity sports and education programs in the future. Mrs. Cienki stated that this is the tough part of the job and she shares the Superintendent's concerns. She noted that we are trying to preserve the programs we have now. On the vote to add the lacrosse JV teams, Mrs. Cienki, Mrs. Winters, Mrs. Guliano, Mrs. Records and Mrs. Palumbo voted no, and Mr. Day voted yes. The motion didn't pass.

9. Out-of-State Field Trips

On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Palumbo, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the following field trips:

9.1 Boston Museum of Science on December 8 for high school science students

9.2 New York City on May 16, 2007 for grade 9 Biology students

10. Bid Awards:

10.1 On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Palumbo, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the following bid award: Fire Extinguisher inspections and repair contract to Allstate Fire Protection, Inc. in the yearly contracted amount not to exceed \$500.

10.2 On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Palumbo, the Committee unanimously opposed the following bid: Carpet and Floor Tile Replacement to Ruggieri Flooring per their unit cost contract

190

10.3 On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Guliano, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the following bid award: Technician Bid to Automatic Temperature Controls for a period of three years on a time and materials basis.

11. Consideration of joining with Barrington on strategy to address

General Assembly regarding state aid.

Mrs. Guliano made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Palumbo to let the Town of Barrington know that East Greenwich will join them to work on strategy to address the General assembly regarding state Aid. Mrs. Guliano asked that the Barrington Town Council be involved. She noted that our Town Council has tried to pursue this with the General Assembly.

12. Financial Report FY 2006 and FY 2007

Mrs. Crawford stated that she is watching our legal fees as we are five months into the fiscal year. Out-of-district costs are below the budget now but that could change. She noted that the budget is tight and expenditures may be frozen in January or February. Mrs. Crawford stated that the school department ended the 2006 fiscal year with a deficit. She noted that the fund balance (the surplus) of \$200,000 was used for the boiler and windows at Cole since warrant monies couldn't be used for that purpose. She also stated that for 2006 the heating budget was overspent as well as attorney fees, building maintenance, and substitute teachers. Mrs. Crawford also noted that a single audit of the grants found that a purchase of \$39,000 was not in compliance and the school department had to reimburse the State for that cost. Mr. Meyers noted that the State has already re-allocated that money to us in grant form. Mrs. Crawford noted that Medicaid monies are now turned over to the town. She stated that we will probably end this fiscal year with a \$425,000 surplus and we need to watch expenditures now. Mrs. Guliano asked if the reserve is set aside for anything specific. Mrs. Crawford noted

that we have to set aside \$77,000 for a run out for West Bay Community Health. Mrs. Palumbo asked about attorney costs and Mrs. Crawford stated that they are high because of special education litigation.

13. On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Palumbo, the Committee, being polled individually, voted unanimously to go into executive Session at 8:50 p.m. under R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a) (1) (2) Contract Negotiations, Personnel Matter, Custodian Arbitration.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Giuliani
Secretary